

Illinois School Funding Reform Commission

August 3, 2016



- I. Welcome, Introductions, Setting the Stage
- II. National Best Practices
- III. Primer on Current Funding Systems in Illinois
- IV. Guiding Principles
- V. Wrap-Up

History of Funding Reform in Illinois

1970

Illinois Constitutional
Convention passes
statement calling
education funding the
"primary responsibility
of the state"

1982

Education funding disparity exceeds pre-1973 levels

1992

Committee for Educational Rights v. Edgar alleges that existing formula violates the Equal Protection Clause and Education Article of the Illinois Constitution. The case is dismissed

1973

General Assembly passes
bill increasing funding to
districts with low property
values but high tax rates, as
well as to districts with high
concentrations of low-income
students

1984

Formal end to 1973
law; education
funding returns to
foundation formula
taking into account
poverty but not
taxes

1996

Ikenberry
Commission report
published

History of Funding Reform in Illinois

1997

Current funding formula adopted: PA 90-548

2003

Most recent notable change to current formula passed by General Assembly. Redefined "low-income student population."

2013 - 2014

Education
Funding Advisory
Council (EFAC)
formed by
Senate, releases
first report with 10
recommendations

2001

Education Funding
Advisory Board (EFAB)
commissions Augenblick &
Myers to study "best
practices." General
Assembly adopts
recommended foundation
level.

2010 - 2016

Foundation level prorated

2016

Record spending for education passed, proration ended, Illinois School Funding Reform Commission established.

Current Funding: Key Statistics

- In 2013, Illinois ranked <u>14th in total per pupil</u> public K-12 spending
 - IL average \$14,200 in total per pupil spending; US average: \$12,380
- In 2013-14, Illinois ranked 2nd in reliance on local revenue
 - o 66.1% of total IL school funding from local revenue; US average: 44%
- In 2013-14, Illinois ranked 50th in state funding
 - 19.6% of total IL school funding from state revenue; US average: 46%
- In 2012, Illinois had the <u>largest gap in funding</u> (combined state and local revenue) between low and high poverty districts
 - High poverty districts received almost 20% less funding from combined state and local revenue than did low poverty districts in Illinois in a comparison per student

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Suggestions for Small Group Meetings

- 1. "Study Groups" for deeper understanding of current formula
- 2. Preparation of presentations to Commission on existing proposals, including, but not limited to:
- Key goals of bill
- Key elements of bill and their use in other state funding formulas
- Similarities and differences from current funding formula
- 10-year costs
- Alignment with Commission guiding principles

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